

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A positive displacement piston unit comprising:
a housing;
a plurality of ~~eylinders~~ cylinder bores within the housing, each ~~eylinder bore~~ having a top end opposite a bottom end with a piston traveling therebetween;
first and second fluid passages connected to the top end and the bottom end of each ~~eylinder bore~~;
an a first electro-energized field generating element associated with ~~each~~ the first fluid passage; and
a second electro-energized field generating element associated with the second fluid passage;
a rheological fluid disposed within the fluid passages wherein the rheological fluid drives the cylinder pistons; and
the pistons are arranged in an axial configuration.
2. (original) The piston unit of claim 1 wherein the viscosity of the rheological fluid increases in the presence of a magnetic field.
3. (original) The piston unit of claim 1 wherein the viscosity of the rheological fluid increases in the presence of an electric field.

4. (original) The piston unit of claim 1 wherein the electro-energized field generating element comprises an electromagnet.

5. (original) The piston unit of claim 1 wherein the electro-energized field generating element comprises an electrode.

6. (cancelled)

7. (original) The piston unit of claim 1 wherein the pistons are arranged in a bent axis configuration.

8. (original) The piston unit of claim 1 wherein the pistons are arranged in a radial configuration.

9. (original) The piston unit of claim 1 further comprising a hydraulic pump.

10. (original) The piston unit of claim 1 further comprising a hydraulic motor.

11. (original) The piston unit of claim 1 further comprising an electronic controller to control the energizing and de-energizing of the electro-energized field generating element.

12. (original) The piston unit of claim 11 wherein the controller selectively energizes and de-energizes the electro-energized field generating element to reduce flow of the rheological fluid through the fluid passages.

13. (original) The piston unit of claim 11 wherein the controller selectively energizes the electro-energized field

generating element associated with one cylinder and de-energizes the electro-energized field generating element associated with an adjacent cylinder to reduce flow of the rheological fluid through the piston unit.

14. (new) The piston unit of claim 1 further comprising:
an inlet fluidly associated with the first electro-energized field generating element and the piston such that when the piston reciprocates, fluid outside the bore passes from the inlet through the electro-energized field generating element to the first fluid passageway and into the bore.

15. (new) The piston unit of claim 14 further comprising an outlet associated with the second electro-energized field generating element such that fluid passes from the bore through the second fluid passage to the second electro-energized field generating element to the outlet.